HOUSE No. 105

By Mr. Jones of North Reading, petition of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others relative to the voting procedures of Presidential electors. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

Mary S. Rogeness
George N. Peterson, Jr.

John A. Lepper
Viriato Manuel deMacedo
Elizabeth A. Poirier
Donald F. Humason, Jr.

Susan W. Pope
Robert S. Hargraves
Shirley Gomes
Michael J. Coppola
Karyn E. Polito
Todd M. Smola
Richard J. Ross

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE VOTING PROCEDURES FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 8 of chapter 53 of the General Laws, as
- 2 appearing in the 2002 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
- 3 inserting after "electors", in line 15, the following sentence:—
- 4 One presidential elector shall be chosen from each congressional
- 5 district, and two presidential electors shall be chosen at large.
- 1 SECTION 2. Chapter 54 of the General Laws, as so appearing,
- 2 is hereby amended by striking out section 148, and inserting in
- 3 place thereof the following section:—
- 4 Section 148. The persons chosen as presidential electors shall
- 5 meet at the state house on the date fixed by federal law next
- 6 following their election at three o'clock in the afternoon and orga-
- 7 nize by the choice of a presiding officer and secretary. The state
- 8 secretary shall call the meeting to order, call the roll of electors,

- 9 and preside until a presiding officer shall be chosen. The secretary
- 10 of the electors shall keep a journal of their proceedings and
- 11 deposit the same in the office of the state secretary, where it shall
- 12 be recorded and filed. Each at-large presidential elector shall cast
- 13 his or her ballot for the presidential and vice-presidential candi-
- 14 dates whose electors received the highest number of votes in the
- 15 state. Each congressional district presidential elector shall cast his
- 16 or her ballot for the presidential and vice-presidential candidates
- 17 whose electors received the highest number of votes in his con-
- 18 gressional district.